

App. No. 09/098,366
Amendment dated March 24, 2005
Reply to final Office action of February 7, 2005

Listing of claims:

1. (Currently amended) For an electronic system for creating and editing an electronic document, a method for placing an insertion point in the electronic document, the method comprising the steps of:

(a) determining whether a location of a cursor in the electronic document is positioned over existing text;

(b) collecting context information regarding the location of the cursor in the electronic document by:

if the location of the cursor is positioned over existing text, then collecting context information associated with the existing text;

if the location of the cursor is not positioned over existing text, collecting context information associated with existing text that is proximate to the location of the cursor,

wherein collecting context information comprises at least one of: examining the alignment of the line over which the cursor is positioned, examining whether there is text on the line over which the cursor is positioned, examining whether tab stops exist on the line over which the cursor is positioned, determining the horizontal position of the cursor on the line, determining the vertical position of the cursor in the document, determining the formatting of text above the cursor location, and determining the formatting of text below the cursor location;

(c) determining whether the collected context information matches a trigger associated with a rule in a database of rules, wherein the rule is associated with formatting steps for placing the insertion point in the electronic document;

(d) if the collected context information matches a trigger, changing a presentation of the cursor to indicate the type of formatting to be applied to text and objects inserted at the location of the cursor;

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(e) determining whether an indication has been received to place the insertion point in the electronic document; and

(f) if an indication has been received, then performing formatting based on the formatting steps to place the insertion point in the electronic document at the location of the cursor.

2. (Cancelled)

3. (Original) The method recited in Claim 1 wherein the step of determining whether an indication has been received to place the insertion point in the electronic document comprises determining whether a button on a mouse has been double-clicked.

4. (Previously presented) The method recited in Claim 1 further comprising the step of:

if an indication has not been received to place the insertion point in the electronic document, then repeating steps (a)-(f).

5. (Previously presented) The method recited in Claim 1 wherein the step of performing formatting to place the insertion point in the electronic document comprises adding and deleting formatting properties from the electronic document.

6. (Previously presented) The method recited in Claim 1 wherein the step of determining whether a location of a cursor in the electronic document is positioned over existing text is performed in response to a change in the location of the cursor.

7. (Cancelled)

8. (Cancelled)

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9. (Currently amended) A computer-readable medium having computer-executable instructions for performing the steps recited in Claim 1 8.

10. (Currently amended) For an electronic system for creating and editing an electronic document, a method for displaying a cursor, the method comprising the steps of:

(a) determining whether a location of a cursor in the electronic document is positioned over existing text;

(b) collecting context information regarding the location of the cursor by:

if the location of the cursor is positioned over existing text, then collecting context information associated with the existing text;

if the location of the cursor is not positioned over existing text, collecting context information associated with existing text that is proximate to the location of the cursor,

wherein collecting context information comprises at least one of: examining the alignment of the line over which the cursor is positioned, examining whether there is text on the line over which the cursor is positioned, examining whether tab stops exist on the line over which the cursor is positioned, determining the horizontal position of the cursor on the line, determining the vertical position of the cursor in the document, determining the formatting of text above the cursor location, and determining the formatting of text below the cursor location;

(c) determining whether the collected context information matches a trigger corresponding to a rule in a database of rules, wherein the rule is associated with a cursor to be displayed;

(d) if the collected context information matches a trigger, selecting the cursor associated with the rule that corresponds to the trigger, wherein the cursor indicates the type of formatting to be applied to text and objects inserted at the location of the cursor; and

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(e) displaying the selected cursor such that text and objects inserted at the location of the cursor are formatted based on the type of formatting indicated by the cursor.

11. (Previously presented) The method recited in Claim 10 wherein the selected cursor indicates the anticipated location of an insertion point in the electronic document.

12. (Cancelled)

13. (Previously presented) The method recited in Claim 10 further comprising the step of repeating steps (a)-(e) as the cursor is moved around the electronic document.

14. (Original) A computer-readable medium having computer-executable instructions for performing the steps recited in Claim 13.

15. (Currently amended) For an electronic system for creating and editing an electronic file, a method for adjusting the location of an insertion point in an electronic file to match the location of a cursor, the method comprising the steps of:

(a) determining whether a location of a cursor in the electronic file is positioned over existing text;

(b) collecting context information regarding a location of a cursor in the electronic file by:

if the location of the cursor is positioned over existing text, then collecting context information associated with the existing text;

if the location of the cursor is not positioned over existing text, collecting context information associated with existing text that is proximate to the location of the cursor.

wherein collecting context information comprises at least one of: examining the alignment of the line over which the cursor is positioned, examining whether there is text on the line over which the cursor is positioned, examining whether tab stops exist on the

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line over which the cursor is positioned, determining the horizontal position of the cursor on the line, determining the vertical position of the cursor in the document, determining the formatting of text above the cursor location, and determining the formatting of text below the cursor location;

(c) determining whether the collected context information matches a trigger corresponding to a rule in a database of rules, wherein the rule is associated with formatting properties for adjusting the location of the insertion point in the electronic file;

(d) if the collected context information matches a trigger, then adjusting the location of the insertion point to the location of the cursor based upon the formatting properties; and

(e) displaying the cursor at the insertion point such that the cursor indicates the type of formatting to be applied to text objects inserted at the insertion point.

16. (Cancelled)

17. (Cancelled)

18. (Previously presented) A computer-readable medium having computer-executable instructions for performing the steps recited in Claim 15.

19. (Original) The method recited in Claim 1, wherein the indication comprises a first click and a second click and wherein the insertion point is placed at a first location in response to the first click and wherein the insertion point is placed at a second location in response to the second click.

20. (Previously presented) The method recited in Claim 1, further comprising receiving an actualization input.

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21. (Currently amended) For an electronic system for creating and editing an electronic document, a method for placing an insertion point in the electronic document, the method comprising the steps of:

(a) determining whether a location of a cursor in the electronic document is positioned over an existing line;

(b) collecting context information regarding the location of the cursor in the electronic document by:

if the location of the cursor is positioned over the existing line, then collecting context information associated with the existing line;

if the location of the cursor is not positioned over the existing line, collecting context information associated with an existing line that is proximate to the location of the cursor,

wherein collecting context information comprises at least one of: examining the alignment of the line over which the cursor is positioned, examining whether there is text on the line over which the cursor is positioned, examining whether tab stops exist on the line over which the cursor is positioned, determining the horizontal position of the cursor on the line, determining the vertical position of the cursor in the document, determining the formatting of text above the cursor location, and determining the formatting of text below the cursor location;

(c) determining whether the collected context information matches a trigger corresponding to a rule in a database of rules, wherein the rule is associated with formatting steps for placing the insertion point in the electronic document;

(d) if the collected context information matches a trigger, changing a presentation of the cursor to indicate the type of formatting to be applied to text and objects inserted at the location of the cursor;

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(e) determining whether an indication has been received to place the insertion point in the electronic document; and

(f) if an indication has been received, then performing formatting based on the formatting steps to place the insertion point in the electronic document at the location of the cursor.

22. (Currently amended) A computer-implemented method for editing an electronic document comprising:

displaying a cursor at a location in the electronic document, wherein the cursor indicates the type of formatting to be applied to text and objects inserted at the cursor location;

receiving a notification of an intent to create an insertion point at the cursor location;

if the cursor location corresponds to no existing text, collecting context information associated with existing text that is proximate to the cursor location, wherein collecting context information comprises at least one of: examining the alignment of the line over which the cursor is positioned, examining whether there is text on the line over which the cursor is positioned, examining whether tab stops exist on the line over which the cursor is positioned, determining the horizontal position of the cursor on the line, determining the vertical position of the cursor in the document, determining the formatting of text above the cursor location, and determining the formatting of text below the cursor location;

determining whether the collected context information matches a trigger, wherein the trigger is associated with formatting adjustments; and

if the collected context information matches the trigger, automatically implementing the formatting adjustments to create the insertion point at the cursor location.

23. (Previously presented) The computer-implemented method of Claim 22, wherein the formatting adjustments comprise adding paragraph marks sufficient to extend existing text to a vertical location proximate to the cursor location.

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24. (Previously presented) The computer-implemented method of Claim 23, wherein the formatting adjustments comprise characters, tabs, or spaces sufficient to extend existing text to a horizontal location proximate to the cursor location.

25. (Previously presented) The computer-implemented method of Claim 22, wherein the formatting adjustments comprise characters, tabs, or spaces sufficient to extend existing text to a horizontal location proximate to the cursor location.

26. (Cancelled)

27. (Previously presented) The computer-implemented method of Claim 22, wherein the no existing text corresponds to a location in a graphical representation of the electronic document at which no document content exists.

28. (Previously presented) The computer-implemented method of Claim 22, wherein the no existing text corresponds to a location in a graphical representation of the electronic document outside an end of document marker.